GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:65
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2003
DUES OF CBEC
M. JAGANNATH;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned `Dues of CBEC at rupees 14,222 crore on 53,600 pending court cases` appearing in the Indian Express dated August 13, 2003 ;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the modus operandi to be followed by the Government for recovery of the dues and disposal of the court cases; and

(d) the target date by when all the cases are expected to be disposed off?

Answer

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. The Central Excise dues as on 31.10.2003are approximately Rs. 12,814 Crore, inclusive of penalty. Similarly the Customs dues as on 31.10.2003 are approximately Rs. 2,917 Crore. Of the above two taxes, a total sum ofRs. 5,978 Crore is under stay by various Courts, Tribunals and Commissioners (Appeals).

(c) and (d): Litigation and recovery of arrears is a continuous process. All efforts are made for early recovery of revenue arrears.